

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph [0026] beginning on page 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- After the auction, the auction coordinator 20 may analyze the auction results with the sponsor 10. The sponsor 10 may conduct final qualification of the low bidding supplier or suppliers 30. The sponsor 10 may furthermore retain the right not to award business to a low bidding supplier 30 based on final qualification or other business concerns. As shown in FIG. 1C, a supply contract may be drawn up for the winning bidder [[30]] 34 and executed based on the results of the auction. Winning bidder 34 is one of bidders 30.--

Please replace the paragraph [0032] beginning on page 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A computer software application may be used to manage the auction. Preferably, as shown in FIG. [[3]] 4, the software application has two components: a client component 16 and a server component 23. The client component 16 may operate on a computer at the site of each of the potential suppliers 30. Suppliers 30 make bids during the auction using the client component 16. The bids may be sent via the network service provider 40 to the site of the coordinator, where it is received by the server component 23 of the software application. The client component 16 may include software used to make a connection through telephone lines or the Internet to the server component 23. Bids may be submitted over this connection and updates may be sent to the connected suppliers. --